REMARKS

Claims 1 – 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murphy (U.S. 2005/0011682 A1) and in view of Aoki et al. (U.S. 6,774,319 B2).

The Applicant respectfully submits that Murphy does not constitute prior art to the present application under 35 U.S.C 102 or 103. The designated inventor "Morgan D. Murphy" of U.S. 2005/0011682 is the same inventor of the present application. Both cases were filed simultaneously on 14 July 2003 and both are and have been continuously assigned to the same entity, Delphi Technologies, Inc. since their common filing date.

U.S. 2005/0011682 is identified as attorney docket number DP-309772 and is presently assigned to Examiner Randy W. Gibson of Group Art Unit 2841. A Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due was mailed on 23 August 2005.

Aoki et al. fails to disclose or suggest a compliant force transfer mechanism as presently claimed.

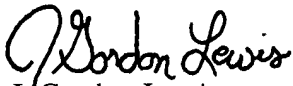Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant believes, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, that all grounds of rejection have been addressed and overcome, and that all claims are in condition for allowance.

If it would further prosecution, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication and/or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please substitute the enclosed sheet 1/1, labeled "Replacement Sheet", for the corresponding sheet presently in the case.

Figure 1 is amended to delete reference numeral 30 as well as its associated lead line. Reference numeral 30 is not referenced in the specification.

Figure 2 is amended to add reference numeral 10 (vehicle seat) as well as its associated lead line.